

November 19, 2019

Hon. Zoe Lofgren 1401 Longworth HOB Washington, DC 20515 Hon. Dan Newhouse 1414 Longworth HOB Washington, DC 20515

Hon. Mike Simpson 2084 Rayburn HOB Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Lofgren, Newhouse, and Simpson:

As co-owners of Clif Bar & Company, we recognize long-term success is dependent on a healthy planet and a healthy workforce. We applied the introduction of the Farm Workforce Modernization Act (<u>H.R.4916</u>), a bill we believe will create stability in the agricultural sector that is good for food companies, farmworkers and for the country.

The Farm Workforce Modernization Act will help farming operations by modernizing the processes for hiring agriculture workers, currently compromised by a web of bureaucratic red tape between multiple federal and state agencies. Instead, the bill would create a single filing process and would allow companies to file job postings on an electronic registry.

We also appreciate that this bill considers farm operations that cannot rely on seasonal laborers alone by creating a phased-in year-round agricultural visa program.

Another reason we support this legislation is that it offers a merit-based path to legal status for seasonal farmworkers. The opportunity to attain Certified Agriculture Worker status acknowledges the contributions of these hard workers we rely on to feed the nation.

Again, thank you for your bipartisan leadership. The Farm Workforce Modernization Act paves the way to a more equitable, sustainable and productive agriculture sector, which is in the best interest of companies, farmworkers, and the American people.

We strongly encourage Members of Congress to cosponsor this bill and we will work with all stakeholders to help ensure its enactment.

Sincerely,

Gary Erickson and Kit Crawford

co-owners and co-CEOs Clif Bar & Company

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